

# *the Nation*

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Ladies, gentlemen and other readers of Rez Notes I humbly accept your nomination for Grand Chief. Thank you. If elected I pledge to change my title to a less loftier one such as Grand-But-Still-Modest-Chief. I also promise not to complain bitterly after signing agreements that the other party is not fulfilling its end of the bargain. You know they will be broken. During my reign I will abuse power only on weekends. Starting, of course, on Thursday nights and ending Monday evening. I will not be photographed while slumped over a drink filled table at a certain bar in Dorval. I will hire one of my brothers to look into and expose any and all cases of nepotism in the Cree nation. Any gifts I receive from heads of state during my rule, I will hand over to the head office in Nemaska where common folk such as yourselves can freely appreciate them. I shall go to and fro over the earth assuring people of all races and creeds that Cree is not a four-letter word. I will use all my earthly powers to separate from Canada and join our brothers in Antarctica. If I should fail in this sacred mission I promise to try again, again and yet again. So, please, promise you'll vote early and often for me on election day.

As I'm sure you realize that most promises that politicians make never survive beyond the day they win. I hereby promise to you that every promise I've made during my campaign will follow this great and honorable tradition because that is the sort of guy I am. I am a traditionalist if nothing else!

Now back to the raison d'être of Rez Notes.

A message to the more numerous of our potential voters, the faithful readers of the Classifieds. Just a note on the state of the classifieds. Your calls have been getting through to the department and we are listening. Patience - we are working on it but many don't know exactly how much we get. It's a bit like a lottery, I guess. So, good luck. A small tip for guaranteed placement: Write legibly and concisely with spaces between the words or send in a photo along with a cheque made out the people in charge. Or, here's an even better idea, send it in on a disk. Macs or PCs.

A student council is resisting a move... We interrupt this sentence to bring you fast breaking news from Will. Mistissini was "put on forest fire alert!" They also evacuated Troilus Mines just a drive away from the community. No one was hurt... What were we saying? Oh yes, the move. Another time maybe.

Waskaganish was the destination of several hundred westcoasters from Kash, or is it Cash, several weeks ago. The details are a bit fuzzy at this point but I believe many were put up in peoples' homes and they filled up the Lodge with Elder guests. The Kashites were fleeing a flooding of their river. The more adventurous of the victims headed for Moosonee where there was fun to be had.

We've actually had requests for music news. Kiss, Metallica, Sting and Styx! in a free outdoor concert and also Tracy Chapman. When? We're working on that too. Some of these are just around the corner. So call your connections.

*Nation*

the Nation

the Nation



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## CLICHE BACKS DOWN ON CHAPAIS DUMP

Another development project has been done in by opposition from the Crees.

A project to send Quebec's garbage to James Bay for disposal was a done deal until the Crees came along.

Environment Minister David Cliche had approved the plan to import up to 80,000 tonnes of garbage each year on May 1. After vigorous protests from Crees, Cliche backed down in early June, calling his earlier decision a mistake.

According to Cliche's latest decision, the new dump in Chapais will be for local use only.

Deputy Environment Minister Jean Pronovost wrote a terse letter on June 4 announcing the surprising reversal to the COMEX environmental panel, which held hearings into the dump last year.

"After discussions, it has been decided to amend the project," Pronovost wrote, without explaining the reasons for the change of heart.

France Amyot, Cliche's spokeswoman, would only say that Cliche changed his mind due to public pressure, especially from Crees. "It was very obvious that people were concerned," she told *The Nation*.

A news article about the Cree concerns appeared in *The Montreal Gazette* on June 3. The next day, Cliche travelled to Lebel-sur-Quévillon to meet with an irate Ouje-Bougoumou Chief Abel Bosum, who complained that

the dump could place his community at risk of contamination from toxic pollutants. The dump site is near streams which empty out into Lake Opemiska, on whose shores O.J. is located (see *The Nation*, June 7).

Crees were also concerned that the North was being turned into Quebec's trash can.

Jonquière engineer Gérard Morin, who will operate the dump as a private business, angrily refused to answer questions from *The Nation* on Cliche's latest decision, saying he didn't want any more "lies" printed about him.

Cliche's latest decision isn't the first time he has changed his mind on this project. The first time the minister met with Chief Bosum to discuss the dump, on March 29, Cliche promised he would not approve it because he said each region should solve its own garbage problems and not dump them in someone else's backyard. Then, on May 1, the dump got the green light even though it had already been rejected by the COMEX environmental committee. Now, it would appear that Cliche has changed his mind for the second time.

Cliche's spokeswoman, France Amyot, denied that there was any disagreement within the government about the dump, but was at a loss to explain why Cliche didn't just stick by his original promise to the Crees. "On that, I can't say. I only started working here in March."

by Alex Roslin

## SAWMILL GETS MIXED REVIEW AT TENSE PUBLIC HEARING

Consensus seems further away than ever among residents of Waswanipi on Chief John Kitchen's proposed \$5.8-million sawmill project.

Sixty to 70 people attended a tense public hearing into the sawmill held by the COMEX environmental panel on June 6 in the community's arena.

The hearing, which lasted from 1:30 to 6:30 p.m., was punctuated by shouts from audience members yelling out: "When are you going to approve it?"

Other audience members raised concerns about the sawmill in presentations to the panel's five members (two Cree reps and three from the Quebec government).

The hearing was kicked off by presentations from the sawmill's chief promoters, Chief Kitchen and Peter Gull, president of the band-owned Waswanipi Mishtuk Corporation. Mishtuk is proposing to build the sawmill in a joint project with the forestry giant Domtar.

Afterwards, Kitchen and Gull were asked many questions about the project by residents. The panel also heard presentations from 10 or 15 residents. According to observers, most seemed to have reservations about the sawmill. Only two or three of those who spoke had no concerns the project at all. "Opinions were quite mixed," commented Hervé Chatignier, COMEX's secretary.

Concerns were voiced about the sawmill's environmental and social impacts and about other questions not directly related to the project. The compensation agreements that Domtar has offered to tallymen harmed by forestry were one area of concern. Residents wondered if these agreements undermine the collective rights of Crees.

Questions were also voiced about a court case on mercury pollution that Waswanipi has fought against Domtar for many years. Now, the case is suddenly being settled out of court.

COMEX will make a recommendation shortly on whether the sawmill should get the green light. The recommendation will be sent to Waswanipi's environmental coordinator, Irene Neeposh, who will make the final decision.

- Alex Roslin



## Buttin' out?

### Letter to The Nation:

I would like to congratulate you on your article about smoking (May 10, 1996). Cracking down on smoking is long overdue. I want to address a situation that is of growing concern, and this may be something you want to further investigate and verify for yourselves.

The Cree Board of Health and Social Services' Board of Directors passed a resolution that was carried out unanimously, stating that smoking is not permitted in all CBHSSJB premises except in rooms occupied by chronic patients. (I guess they are referring to Chisasibi Hospital.) That this regulation has been in effect as of June 1, 1995!

James Bobbish, the Executive Director of the Cree Health Board, issued Memorandums (dated Jan. 20, 1995 and April 25, 1995) explaining and reminding the staff of the Cree Health Board's smoking policy.

Yet after all of this, the smoking policy is not being respected by the CBHSSJB staff of the Chisasibi Hospital. In 1987 there was a smoking room built for the smokers of the hospital. Today, it is still being used as a smoking room, not only

by the staff, but their supervisors as well! Was this policy only written for the sake of just writing it? I am wondering if this is not sending out mixed messages?

Mr. Bobbish strongly emphasized in his Memorandums that the Cree Health Board is an establishment which promotes health and well-being. It is supposed to be a smoke-free establishment. I guess that means that there are certain exceptions? As a Cree and a member of the Chisasibi band, I believe that this situation should not be tolerated. If there are going to be strict policies being made, then they should be enforced.

Second-hand smoke is dangerous. Every person who enters this hospital is affected, from the young infants to the elderly people. If people want to smoke during their breaks (and have the time to smoke), the best place to go would be outside. If it is too cold out there, then ask yourself: Is this worth it?

Quitting is tough, I know, but it is not impossible—it is do-able.

What is the administration doing about this situation/problem? Are there any steps being taken in order to transform this smoking room into

something else? Perhaps it could be a green space, with plants and flowers? Maybe even a mini-museum, pictures of people from long ago (e.g. nurses, doctors, patients, staff, etc.) I am sure there are many sorts of ideas that could be looked into.

Is there any action being taken by the Cree Health Board that would enforce the smoking policy? In the South, people get tickets for smoking in non-smoking designated areas. Does it have to come to that at the Cree Health Board?

Stella Lameboy-Ottereyes  
Ex-Smoker, Chisasibi

## Mishtuk award

### Letter to The Nation:

At the Annual General Assembly of the First Peoples' Business Association which was held on April 16 & 17, 1996 in Montreal, Mishtuk Corporation was awarded an achievement award for the development of the Wood Transformation Centre project. The accomplishments on the development of the Wood Transformation Centre project were undertaken by a number of individuals from various organizations and

Please turn to page 20

# 3rd ANNUAL CREE NATION INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT FASTBALL & SOFTBALL

On behalf of the Cree Nation Recreation Directors, we are officially inviting you to participate in our 3rd Annual Cree Nation Invitation Tournament - Fastball and Softball that will take place from **August 1 - 4, 1996 in Val d'or, Quebec.**

We will be giving away awards of over \$25,000.00 to six (6) different categories. It will be disbursed as follows:

DIVISION	# OF TEAMS	ENTRY FEES	PRIZE MONEY
MEN'S FASTBALL	8 TEAMS	\$700.00	CHAMPIONS - \$5000.00 FINALISTS - \$2500.00
MEN'S SOFTBALL (COMPETITION)	8 TEAMS	\$500.00	CHAMPIONS - \$3000.00 FINALISTS - \$1500.00
MEN'S SOFTBALL (RECREATION)	8 TEAMS	\$400.00	CHAMPIONS - \$2000.00 FINALISTS - \$1000.00
WOMEN'S SOFTBALL (COMPETITION)	8 TEAMS	\$500.00	CHAMPIONS - \$3000.00 FINALISTS - \$1500.00
WOMEN'S SOFTBALL (RECREATION)	8 TEAMS	\$400.00	CHAMPIONS - \$2000.00 FINALISTS - \$1000.00
OLDTIMER'S SOFTBALL	8 TEAMS	\$400.00	CHAMPIONS - \$2000.00 FINALISTS - \$1000.00

If you wish to register your team(s) in this prestigious tournament or if you need more information, please contact:

Ernie Moses, Waskaganish First Nation  
TEL: (819) 895-8650 FAX: (819) 895-8901

## NOTE

Prize money may vary depending on number of registration.  
Deadline for registration is Monday, July 8, 1996 at 4:00 P.M. This includes full payment of registration fees. The first teams to register and pay inscriptions will be accepted. No exceptions.  
Pour les informations en français, S.V.P. téléphonez Réal Lacroix au (418) 745-3911.  
Teams will be required to pay a defaultation fee of \$100.00.  
All teams may be required to travel on Wednesday, July 31, 1996 at the tournament begins on Thursday, August 1, 1996.  
This tournament is organized for the enjoyment and good sportsmanship of all participants.





## CREES FROZEN OUT OF HYDRO CONTRACTS

All of Hydro-Quebec's maintenance slashing contracts in James Bay have been awarded to non-Cree businesses in the South this year.

"To our great surprise and astonishment, no work will be available in region 10 (James Bay) for the Crees of Mistissini, while the work will be performed by contractors from down south on Cree land," said Norman Petawabano, director-general of Mistco Ventures, in a letter to Natural Resources Minister Guy Chevrette.

Petawabano wrote that he felt "great regret" and "bewilderment" upon learning that Crees didn't get any of the Hydro contracts and said he "vehemently" disagreed with Hydro-Quebec's decision.

The letter, dated May 13, asks Chevrette to put in place a moratorium on all new slashing contracts until a review is conducted into Hydro-Quebec procedures.

Petawabano called for Hydro policies to be brought into line with the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement, which promises Crees priority for Hydro contracts in the North.

Mistissini-owned Mistco put in a joint bid for \$300,000 worth of slashing work along with the Coopérative Forestière Chibougamau-Chapais.

The contract would have created 30 jobs for a three-

month period, according to Petawabano.

As it turned out, Mistco lost out to a Lac-St-Jean company whose bid was \$2,000 lower. Mistco's bid was the second-lowest.

Petawabano said Hydro-Quebec could have contacted Mistco and given it a chance to change its original bid. He pointed out that the difference between the two bids was less than 1 per cent of the value of the work.

"The fact that it was in Cree Territory should have woken up someone over there," Petawabano said in an interview with *The Nation*.

"I wouldn't mind if our price was way above the other price or the area to be slashed was way out of our territory. But it was not. We were very competitive and in my backyard is where it is being done."

After Petawabano mailed off his letter, the Lac-St-Jean company tried to make peace with Mistco by offering to sub-contract out the work to the Crees. Discussions are now under way.

A Hydro-Quebec spokesman said the utility had no comment on the letter. "I don't think we'll make a comment before the minister does," said Steve Flanagan.

A spokeswoman for Guy Chevrette said she had Petawabano's letter in her hand, but did not have an official response in time for this issue.

by Alex Roslin

## MISTISSINI SETS UP CREE LANGUAGE DEPT.

Soon there won't be any more "rewinduuh" or "honkuu-je-hornuum" heard around the Mistissini band office.

The band has set up a Cree Language Department to promote Cree language use in band business. The department's two employees will offer Cree employees of the band courses to improve the quality of their Cree. They will also translate band documents into Cree to make them more accessible to the public.

"It's something we wanted to do for quite a while now," said Thomas Neeposh, the band's director of operations.

Mistissini is one of the first Cree communities to establish an entire department devoted to promoting Cree in the workplace. The band has had Cree translators for five or six years, but now the work will be done out of a permanent department by order of a Band Council decision on April 1. The program is funded with federal funds under the Cree-Naskapi Act; before, it was paid for with Cree money.

## LUBICON NOT GIVING UP

The Lubicon Lake Cree continue their fight against development on their ancestral lands.

Lubicon representatives were recently in Montreal to spread the word about their struggles. Their land has never been ceded in a treaty, but clearcutting and drilling for oil and gas have been destroying their land for nearly 20 years.

The Alberta government and Ottawa are trying to stall the Lubicon land claim in the courts by arguing that the Lubicon no longer practice a traditional way of life and therefore cannot claim aboriginal title to the land.

An estimated \$8 billion worth of petroleum has been extracted from Lubicon land, while pollution from the development has led to successive waves of tuberculosis, respiratory and skin diseases, cancers, miscarriages, still births and birth defects.

Alcohol abuse and suicide are growing problems in the community. In a few short years, the Lubicon Lake community, once vibrant and self-sufficient, has

cont'd on page 9





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RESSOURCES MESTON INC. recherche un *ingénieur en mécanique des roches*. Sous la supervision du chef ingénieur, le titulaire du poste aura comme principale responsabilité le contrôle des normes relatives aux méthodes sécuritaires d'exploitation du gisement. Il devra planifier, concevoir ou choisir les plans de réhabilitation de terrain, contrôler les patrons de boulonnage et les divers supports de terrain utilisés et s'assurer de la conformité des ouvrages souterrains aux normes gouvernementales applicables.

Les candidats devront être membres en règle de l'Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec et posséder un minimum de trois (3) années d'expé-

rience dans le domaine de l'ingénierie appliquée aux mines, particulièrement en mécanique des roches. En outre, ils devront pouvoir travailler en équipe et posséder des connaissances de base en informatique.

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*N.B. Nous pratiquons l'équité en matière d'emploi et sommes engagés dans l'implantation d'un programme d'accès à l'égalité.*

*Dans ce texte, le masculin comprend aussi le féminin.*



continued from page 9

become dependent on welfare. In 1979, the average income from hunting was \$5,000 and 10 per cent were on welfare. In 1984, the hunting income was \$400 while 90 per cent were on welfare, according to figures from the University of Alberta's Boreal Institute for Northern Studies.

## HAWAIIAN SOVEREIGNTY ON THE HORIZON

The move toward Hawaiian sovereignty is gaining momentum big time.

"Those of us of Hawaiian ancestry should govern ourselves, run our own affairs, on land that is ours, but within the borders of what you would still call Hawai'i," said Mililani Trask, Prime Minister of the pro-sovereignty organization, Ka Lahui Hawai'i.

"Sentiment is steadily building even among the non-Natives... and I honestly do think it's going to happen," said Lulani McKenzie of the state Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Other Native Hawaiians have gone further, calling for complete independence of the island nation from the U.S.

In recent years, dozens of pro-sovereignty organizations have sprung up, some with tens of thousands of members. Civil disobedience, protests, legislative battles and even violent incidents are on the rise.

In 1993, the state legislature passed several laws and resolutions acknowledging sovereignty as a goal. The same year, U.S. President Bill Clinton apologized to Native Hawaiians on the 100th anniversary of the overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy by the U.S.

"That was a real morale booster... and even better, it provided a potential legal basis for asserting that the American government was wrong and therefore must atone for that wrong," said an aide to Governor John Waihee, who is the state's first governor of Native Hawaiian ancestry.

This summer, Hawaiians will have a chance to vote on it: A referendum is being held on whether Native Hawaiians should elect delegates to plan their own government.

- Source: *The Toronto Globe and Mail*



## Friendship

MAY 23, 1996

To my friend  
Gilbert Herodier

A Gift that will  
Remain forever in my memory  
flashing forward a picture  
of the past  
the wind has risen  
now comes a breeze  
it flutters the boy's hair  
he watches the tide  
a sea of  
white and blue  
he stands there  
atop of a cliff his eyes bright  
being young and full of hope  
directed his warmth and love  
to his grandmother (my mother)  
wish sometimes we never grow up  
Joseph with the coat of many colours  
had his trials too  
the garden where the boy had grown up  
did not remain nice and level  
somewhere were nasty craters  
there were people, class rooms  
of higher learning and so on.

As it always was  
I am still a friend  
to the boy of another time and another place

MARGARET CROMARTY



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# THE ZERO



# BALANCE CLUB

*The attached program has been successfully implemented in our community and may be of some interest to The Nation's readers. For the past three years, our local housing program has begun a "Zero Balance Club."*

**By Chief George Wapachee**

The payment of monthly rent, as we all know, has not had a positive record in all the Cree communities and Nemiscau was no exception. It is also a fact that our people are very "bingo-oriented." There is a tendency to only pay if we receive something in return (notwithstanding low-income housing). Therefore, the idea of starting a club to motivate people to pay their monthly rent was started and to take advantage of this growing trend.

Presently, we have 97 household units in the community and out of this, we have 42 household units in the club. It is known as the "Zero Balance Club 42." This basically means that almost half of our housing tenants are paid up to date on their monthly rent—their balance is zero.

Three years ago, we started out with only 21 club members.

Although there is still some rental arrears in our community, the overall picture has been quite positive and the people have reacted favourably to this approach.



1996 - The Year of the Child in Nemiscau

ON BEHALF OF NEMASKA FIRST NATION AND NEMASKA SCHOOL COMMITTEE, I AM PLEASED TO EXTEND OUR WARMEST "CONGRATULATIONS" TO THE SECONDARY V GRADUATES OF ECOLE LUKE METTAWESKUM SCHOOL AND SABTUAN.

MAY THIS ACHIEVEMENT BE A BEGINNING OF MANY TO LEAD YOU INTO FULFILLING YOUR PERSONAL GOALS AND DREAMS.



SINCERELY,  
LILLIAN DIAMOND  
PRINCIPAL



CONGRATULATIONS  
AND BEST WISHES  
TO THE NEMISCAU SCHOOL  
GRADUATES OF 1996

*With your graduation, you are now commencing a period of great discovery and personal growth. The Chief and Council and all members of the Nemiscau First Nation encourage you to continue with your studies and come back to us with new ideas and creative ways to enhance our community. You are the future of the Nemiscau First Nation.*

*Have a great summer, you have made us all proud.*





The main objectives of the Zero Balance Club are:

1. To create a positive rental payment history in Nemiscau.
2. To assist individual tenants to assert their personal responsibility in respect to the community rental housing program.
3. To continue to provide reasonable family housing units for the growing families of Nemiscau.
4. To develop alternative housing for special needs groups and individuals in the community of Nemiscau.
5. To create residential developments which reflect the values and vision of the people of Nemiscau.

## Cree First Nation Fitness Challenge 1996

*"Where the Elite Compete"*

**August 9 & 10, 1996  
Nemaska, Quebec**

**Registration Deadline! Friday July 10, 1996, 4:00 PM**

The Cree First Nation Fitness Challenge is a prestigious athletic competition between the nine (9) Cree communities. We welcome the two (2) finest male/female athletes from each community to compete in this Challenge. Each athlete will compete in five (5) events: swimming, cycling, portage, canoeing and running. This course will without a doubt take each athlete to their highest fitness level, in the areas of speed, power, strength and endurance. Will and determination to complete the event will also be a huge factor. The prestige of being crowned and recognized as the Fittest Male/Female Athlete in the Cree Nation for 1996, will justifiably be awarded to the top finishers.

**DON'T FORGET  
OVER \$34,000.00 IN CASH PRIZES TO BE WON!!!**

*The question remains, are you up for the Challenge?!*

To register and for more information,  
contact Rodney Hester (Recreation Assistant, NFN)  
at (819) 673-2512.

## COMMUNITY

The way it works is very simple. When you become a member of the club, meaning your rent is paid to date, then you become eligible to the drawing of prizes every three months (coincidentally timed with the quarterly distribution of the Income Security Program cheques). The prizes are provided by the Council of the Nemiscau First Nation and could be anything like: one month free rent, cash (less than the monthly rent), one drum of gas with oil, groceries, hunting equipment, so many meals at the local restaurant, etc.

The prizes are provided in a manner that benefits the community as a whole, i.e., the Council pays to the local restaurant on behalf of the community. There are three winners every three months and at the end of the year, in December, we have three grand prize winners. But, in order to be eligible for the grand prize, you would have to have a perfect rental record in the preceding year.

Everyone has a chance to be a winner in the club, as at odd intervals, the draws are done only amongst those who have not won anything yet. Then, at Christmas time, we have our annual "turkey giveaway" to all club members, on earnings from our local Development Corporation.

We also have a plaque at the Band Office, in public display, honouring and acknowledging all the club members, with their names, every three months. The plaque has received a lot of attention as it also is a photographic display of the community and its growth these past years.

As people come to look for their pictures, they also see that they and others are being honoured for their responsible rental payments.

We have found that this program has enhanced local pride and even allowed us to consider housing beautification programs like gardens and local landscaping projects.

This information is provided to you in response to requests and also to encourage others to think creatively for all our futures.

## Nadnemskawanoo



**Old  
Nemaska  
Days**

**COME & JOIN  
THE PEOPLE OF NEMASKA**

**In reliving their past and  
for the future protection of the land**

**July 1-7, 1996**

**This event is intended for people from other villages  
and visitors who are interested in seeing  
and participating in the gathering.**

**The Nemaska people will explain their traditions and  
culture to their guests and show them  
the same Old Nemaska  
they have inhabited for many years.**

**FOR MORE INFO. PLEASE CONTACT THOMAS JOLLY  
AT (819) 673-2512.**



### Why? I'm missin' you

As I lean back, I close my eyes.  
Slowly I drift into deep sleep.  
I dream you are here, I dream  
you're here by my side. I hold  
you close to my heart  
Everythin's do perfect. I awake...  
The memories flood over me,  
"Rememberin' is what I have left of us."  
I'm missin' you. Yet, talkin' to  
you it's like you're this other person.  
It hurts knowin' things have changed. Why?  
Why. I'm still missin' you...  
Is it... I came to know a side  
of you that made me feel complete.  
I don't know. I'll never know  
why I'm missin' my every bein'  
for wannin' to be  
with you... Still, you know I'm missin' you...

by Heather Marie D.  
Waskaganish

### The Broken Chain

We little knew that day that God  
Was going to call your name  
In life we loved you dearly,  
In death we do the same.

It broke our hearts to lose you,  
you did not go alone,  
For part of us went with you,  
the day God called you home.

You left us peaceful memories,  
Your love is still our guide,  
And though we cannot see you.  
You are always at our side.

Our family chain is broken  
And Nothing seems the same,  
But, as God calls us one by one  
The chain will link again.

To: Our Dearest Son and Brother. With love always:  
Mom (Emily), Dad (Philip), William, Erica, Lillian, Walter,  
Amanda and Mary. In loving memory of Teddy Larry  
Swallow. Went home to be with the Lord on May 19,  
1995.

## BRISSON & FILS ENR.

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## The Government of Canada

announces the initiation of the  
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through the government's  
Open Bidding Service (OBS),  
or by calling the  
Canada Communication Group  
at **(819) 956-9000.**

Canada

For more poetry and writings turn to page 19



# A SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR GRADUATING STUDENTS



**O**n behalf of the Council of Commissioners of the Cree School Board I wish to extend our congratulations to all the Cree students who have succeeded in completing their secondary and post secondary and other studies this year.

The future of our Nation depends on our Youth and we can all take pride in the accomplishments of these students. Their educational achievements provide them and ultimately our entire society with the tools for self reliance and they symbolize the successes which hard work and dedication can provide.

The Cree School Board takes pride in your success. I can assure you that everyone around you, your family and community all share in the success you have achieved and will continue to pursue.

In reviewing the numbers of graduates and the diversity of programs we see that the Cree Nation is truly developing a skilled and educated labour force for the future. Cree society will continue to be strengthened by the success of these students as well as those who have gone before them and those who will follow.

We wish you all the very best in your continued educational and other pursuits.

Luke MacLeod, Chairman  
CREE SCHOOL BOARD



## **SECONDARY V GRADUATES OF 1996**

### **Chisasibi:**

Karen Chakapash (English)  
Mary Napash  
Christina Kitty  
Ghislain Bobbish (French)

### **Eastmain:**

Daisy Gilpin (E)  
Ivan Gilpin (E)  
Charlene Mayappo (E)  
Phyllis Tomatuk (E)  
Jonathan Cheezo (F)  
Patrick Dixon (F)  
Archie Mayappo (F)  
Katrina Polson (F)

### **Graduation Date:**

Friday, June 21, 1996

### **Mistissini:**

Hattie Brien (E)  
Beatrice Gunner (E)  
Emmet Macleod (E)  
Elsie Neeposh (E)  
Jason Shecapio (E)  
Rene Stuart Coon-Come  
John Paul Gilpin (F)

### **Graduation Date:**

Thursday, June 20, 1996 starting at  
4:30 PM

### **Nemaska:**

Diane Moar (F)  
Brenda Rose Wapachee (F)  
Jean Meskino (E)  
Dominic Swallow (E)

**Graduation Date:** Wednesday, June  
19, 1996

### **Adult Education:**

Stella Moar-Wapachee  
Emily Pachano-Neeposh  
Margaret Cheezo  
Roselin Rabbitskin  
Bill Blackned

### **Ouje-Bougoumou (Maclean Memorial School, Chibougamau):**

Carrie Bosum  
Patrick Mianscum

### **Graduation Date:**

Friday, June 7, 1996 (Chibougamau)

### **Awards Night in O.J.:**

Thursday, June 13, 1996

### **Waswanipi:**

Caroline Blacksmith (F)  
Janice Gull (F)  
Maxine Gull (F)  
David Jolly (F)  
Carole Kitchen (F)  
Melanie Otter (F)  
Harriette Ottereyes (F)  
Jonathan Ottereyes (F)  
Rosetta Ottereyes (F)  
Joanne Saganash (F)  
Allen Cooper (E)  
Patrick Cooper (E)  
Agnes Kwandibens (E)  
Sabrina Mark (E)  
Sinclair Neeposh (E)  
Nick Polson (E)

### **Graduation Date:**

Thursday, June 20, 1996

### **Wemindji:**

Nina Bobbish  
Jean Saganash  
Darryl Gilpin  
Sabrina Shashewaskum  
Denise Miniquaken  
Sean Blackned  
Andrew Griffin  
Sandra Kakabat  
Clarence Miniquaken  
Jeffrey Natawapineskum  
Betty Stewart

### **Graduation Date:**

Friday, June 14, 1996

### **Whapmagoostui:**

Christopher George  
Rachel Kawapit  
Adario Masty  
Gabriel Masty  
Natazia Mukash  
May Niquanicappo  
Lindy Rupert

### **Waskaganish:**

Marty Blackned (E)  
Janet Blueboy  
Mary Jane Blueboy  
Jack Diamond  
Darryl C. Hester  
Willard Moses  
Bertie Shecapio  
Sasha Weistche  
Ben Whiskeychan  
Deborah Cheezo (F)  
June Diamond  
Mervin Erless  
Diane Georgekish  
Gary Clive Hester  
Stephanie Jonah  
Nora Katapatuk  
Elaine Moses  
Lorna Salt  
Eveleen Small  
Flora Weische  
David Whiskeychan

### **Graduation Date:**

Thursday, June 27, 1996

### **Adult Education:**

Greta Cheechoo-Whiskeychan



# IN MEMORY

# BERTIE WAPACHEE SR.

In memory of Mr. Bertie Wapachee Sr., who was a loving caring husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, friend, respected leader, Elder, a rolemodel to many and a man who loved God very much. Born: December 25, 1915. Died: November 17, 1993.

"Marvel not what I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. John 3:7"

The late Bertie Wapachee Sr.

- was 77 years old
- surviving child from first marriage, Joseph Wapachee Sr.
- In 1943 he married his second wife, Sarah Mettaweskum, and they have been married for 50 years
- From this marriage, he is survived by five sons, Noah, George, Peter, Matthew and Teddy
- also five daughters, Alice Jolly Jr., Charlotte Shecapio, Maggie Minister, Nellie Coonishish and Elizabeth

- He is further survived by one brother, Daniel Wapachee
- He is further survived by 49 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren
- was a successful hunter, trapper, fisherman and family man throughout his life
- In 1965 he became the first official Chief of Nemaska for five years
- In 1970 he was the leader of the Nemaska Band for six years
- He was one of the original founding members of the Grand Council of the Crees (of Quebec) and a signatory to the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement in 1974
- In 1976 he was saved and dedicated his life to the Lord.

November 20, 1993

Heaven above:  
Dear Husband, Dad, Grandfather

## Dear Husband

For 50 years I have shared my life with you, and I find it hard to accept that you are now gone from me. I have faithfully and with routine enjoyment prepared your morning tea and attended to your various needs as we both grew older together—for that I took great pleasure. But I have to accept the fact that you are gone, that you have gone ahead of me to be with our Saviour. I know I have to continue my remaining time alone, but you know, the Lord has blessed us with many gifts, our children, therefore I am not alone. I know I have to be strong for them and give them support as you have done for us. And at the same time, I know they in turn will provide the support I need to carry on. I will continue to gather them together once in a while and share a meal with them as we have often done in the past. Life must go on—one day at a time. I look forward to the day when we will again be together, for I know you are rejoicing with the Lord, and at peace.

## Dear Dad

We all knew one day you would leave our lives and we have prepared ourselves for that moment. But on one is ever fully prepared to love a cherished and loving father as you have been to all of us. Your passing has touched us all deeply. We face the reality that we no longer have someone to call "Dad" any more. But we know there is no need to worry, for you have taught and passed on to us as a parent should, strong family values we will continue to hold so dear and close to our hearts, and to pass them on to our children. Your strength will be our strength, your love will be our love, your patience, caring and understanding will be ours, your generosity will be our generosity. We will always remember you as a kind and a giving person. You were always there to help whenever and whatever you could, in any way possible.

In your own gentle manner, you were not one to say, "I Love You," to your children, but in our own traditional manner, we all knew you did. It was often that your actions spoke louder than words. You have taught us to be strong, to give the best of ourselves and our abilities in everything we did. You were and are our "pillar."

Yes, Dad, we will each have fond memories of you, and do not worry about "Mom"—we will take care of her—we know you are in good hands in where you have gone. Your witnessing of God's word to each one of us will not fall on deaf ears. You have planted "a seed" in each one of us—in our hearts.

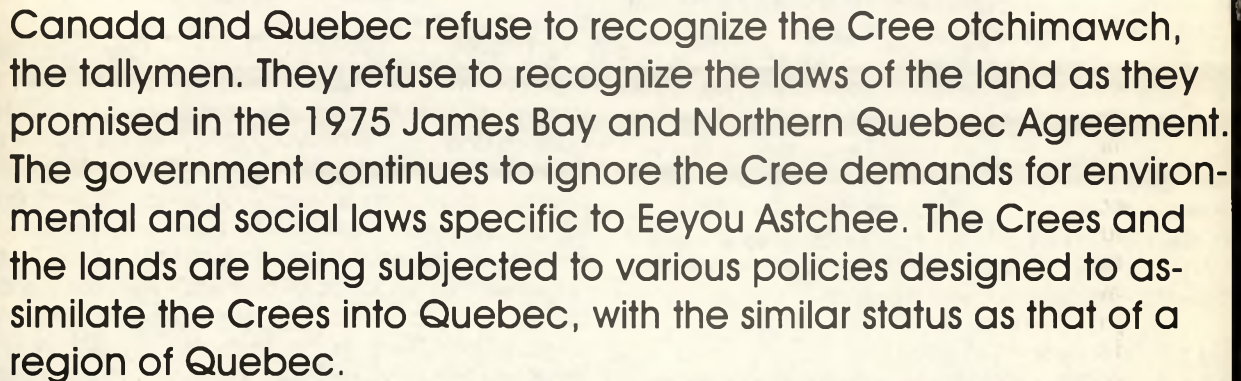
## Dear Grandfather

It is never easy to say good-bye to a kind "Grandpa" as you have been with us. There is never enough time with Grandpas. We wish you would have been here longer—but it is not ours to question God's plan in taking you away from us. But we will always remember your kindness and generosity. You always seemed to have time for us and you were always there when we needed you. We will remember the times when we visited you, and numerous times as we leave your house or cabin, you would slip a little something into our hands. We knew this was your way of saying to us, "I love you," or, "I like what you are doing." You have respectfully applied God's Word in the things that you did—you knew the more you give of yourself, the more you will get in return—and this you did. We will remember you as the "fiddle-playing man," also your accordion, and your hat, and your whole-hearted dedication to witnessing for the Lord. We know as you stand before the Lord today, the Lord will ask you, "What have you done with the time and the gifts I gave you," and we know your response will be, "Lord, I believe I have done pretty good—I have this letter."

Good-bye, we all love you.  
In loving memory,  
Your wife  
Your sons and daughter  
Your brother and all your relatives  
Their families and extended families  
Your grandchildren and great grandchildren  
All those who knew you.

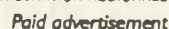
*This letter was enclosed within the casket.*



[illegible]

It is time to take a stand as the Cree Nation. It is time for each of us to act now to protect our Cree Rights and the Cree Heritage.

ΔΔΔ\* C<ΔΓΔΓ  
CREE REGIONAL AUTHORITY  
ADMINISTRATION RÉGIONALE CRIE





## By William Nicholls

One can only call the musical style of **Without Rezervation** angry, Native-oriented Hip Hop. It's on a par with anything out there in this musical style. There are Native overtures but it's definitely in the black hip hop mode.

*Guilty til proven innocent* is a strong, in-your-face song guaranteed to reach in and rip out your guts. It talks about the way Natives are treated by the justice system. It reminds me of a Cree friend who once mocked the Canadian justice system: "Native justice—Look at the jails; it's mostly 'just-us.'"

The song lets you know that the same is true south of the border. You can hear the anger in the voices of the group. The only problem with this song is that the anger calls for a militant response because the peace hasn't worked, according to the song.

But then these are three Native Americans come from the mean streets of Oakland. They are rapping about the struggles of Native people, a "politico-ethnic funk" as they stylize themselves. The three members of Without Rezervation are Kevin Nez from the Dine Nation, Corey Araynaydo from the Tohono-Akimel O'odom people and Chris LaMarr of the Paiute/Pit River



Band.

The boys have been listening to Ward Churchill and this shows up in their song *Mascot*. *Mascot* is a song that says it is discrimination to turn Native symbols into mascots for sports teams and that it just adds to the racism when you read a newspaper, listen to radio or TV and hear of a Redskin's massacre (Washington), the Braves scalping, the Chiefs' wampum, an "Indian slaughter" or the tomahawk chop.

It says that Native peoples are nobody's mascot. The last stanza says it all... "Ah yeah, this song goes out to the Washington Redskins, yo check, this song goes out to the Kansas City Chiefs, yo check, this song goes out to the Cleveland Indians, the Atlanta Braves, the Chicago Blackhawks, the Florida State Seminoles and all those fools trying to play us out for a mascot. But we let you know right now in 9-4 WOR cannot take this anymore, cuz we nobody's mascot."

Very cool album with good music and a message. If you're into hip hop, rap, etc. then this should be the latest addition to your

collection... unless you're an L-7. Figure it out.

Available from First Nations Music: 3025 Kennedy Rd., Unit 3A, Scarborough, Ontario, M1V 1S3.

## POETRY

### For you Dad on Father's Day

Dad, I remember as far back to my childhood that you often asked me to sit on your lap and I remember how safe I felt while you were holding me. I will always treasure those moments in my heart.

Dad, I remember, even when I done wrong, not once you laid a finger on me to punish me and yet I felt so scared knowing that you were angry with me. I tried my best to please you in any way but I know that I have failed many times. You have always taught me never to give up on anything in life and that really helped me a lot in my mind and soul. So thank you Daddy.

Dad, someday as I got older, I understood what you really are—SIMPLY A GOOD FATHER. I've always depended on you whenever I was in trouble with my two brothers (that was really scary). But through the years you were always there for me and I will always depend on me for anything (even money).

Dad, I know you are always trying to cheer me up whenever I fell down and you are doing a great job. You tell me jokes and I guess you know that I will laugh. That works every time. Just being around you and watching you work makes me feel better when I feel sad.

Dad, all I wanted to say is I love you, you are the best and I would never trade you for anything in the world. With honour I am proud to call you my dad.

With love from your only daughter, Diane.  
Happy Father's Day.

*Dedicated to my father, William Snowboy.*

### In loving memory

I see spring, I think of you  
I hear birds singing, I see you dancing  
I see green grass, I see you walking  
I see blue skies, I see your smile  
I hear the rain, I hear your laugh  
I feel the warm winds and I smile  
Memories of you, I will always treasure

*Dedicated to Hannah Bearskin who passed away on February 5, 1995. A sister, an aunt, a daughter, a friend who is sadly missed and will forever remain in our hearts.*

### In memory of our loving grandfather Reggie Bosum Sr.

Our precious grandfather you have left us, but you leave behind your wonderful family that are part of you. Through your family we see you in them. We will never forget you... You will always remain in our hearts because you were always very respectful to your family. Your love was such a blessing to everyone. Grandpa you had such a kind, caring and loving heart!

With love, from all your grandchildren

*Reggie Bosum Sr., known as "Big Boss." Born: June 6, 1900. Died: December 29, 1995. Reggie died of natural causes in Chibougamau Hospital.*



agencies on behalf of Mishtuk Corporation.

Thanks should be extended for the efforts and dedication shown by the members of the negotiating committee, Chief John Kitchen, Deputy Chief Romeo Saganash, Director of Operations Sam C. Gull, Consultant Roger Lachance and all the employees of the Corporation.

Thanks should also be directed to our potential partners, representatives of Domtar Inc., representatives of the Ministry of Industry, Science & Technology and the Ministry of Forestry of Quebec for their support and cooperation. Last but not least, thanks to my wife Emily who at numerous meetings served as my guiding light.

*Peter Gull, President, Waswanipi Mishtuk Corporation*

## Justice is not revenge

### Letter to The Nation:

When a Calgary professor slanders the Jewish community by calling the Holocaust a hoax, there's an outcry for justice. When a Black man is unjustly tried and convicted, there's an outcry for justice. When a French Canadian politician blames ETHNIC votes for his defeats, there's an outcry for justice. But when a Maori singer says on national television (Maverick with Peter Malling, New Zealand reforms, May 21, 1996) that the New Zealand Aborigines will do to the whites what the whites did to them, there's silence. When a Native magazine (*The Nation*, fall 1995) publishes an interview with a Hawaiian Native poet who writes vicious poetry in which she lashes out at white women, there's silence. When some of the Black leaders insult the white race in public speeches, there's silence.

Why? Why not a cry for justice in such cases? Why are we so afraid to speak out with the same vigour as other majorities or minorities in the world? Fear? Guilt? Guilt for what? I'm not guilty of racism, prejudice or segregation toward my fellow human beings. I didn't persecute anyone based on race or creed.

When I taught Natives in Northern Quebec, I never expected to be a victim of racial hatred, mainly because I had been selected by a committee of Natives, therefore assuming that the people trusted their own and respected their judgement. I was outraged by some of the hatred that seems to fester against the whites. A few students—and I do reiterate, A FEW—would insult me daily, calling me "F... White Bitch" and other selections of obscenities always preceded by the adjective "white." In the same school, a white boy, a teenager, attended class with the Natives but spent his weekends on the reserve isolated. A colleague who taught next to my class was told regularly by her students to go back to Africa, although she was Haitian. They called her a variety of names. These were teenagers who had never been to residential schools. So where are they getting the hatred from?

There are many other similar cases of racism against whites, well-documented cases either with labour boards or unions. But only silence surrounds these cases.

Meanwhile, I've become both sad and angry. I've had enough of feeling degraded and paying the price for the atrocities of ancestors that are as far removed from me as the canine species.

I've signed petitions for the Natives in support of their cause. I've defended this cause over and over again in conversations with colleagues and friends. I've confronted students wearing Swastikas and hate propaganda on their shirts. I've defended Métis students in Val d'Or against truant white boys who were well-versed in name-calling. How quickly we forget that white

people, men, women and children, walked alongside such noble hearts as King and Ghandi. How quickly we forget the purpose behind the long battle for civil rights, for human rights. A principle is a universal one and not something only a few should be allowed to use as a weapon. I do not belong to the KKK, or to the Neo-Nazis or to the Skinheads or any other organization which promotes hatred. But as a white woman, I want to make a stand and a plea for my race: stop the hatred now. Past history is something we should learn from in order not to repeat the same mistakes. It is not an excuse for revenge.

*Julie Hamel, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, Quebec*

## Looking ahead in forestry

### Letter to The Nation:

The development of forest resources is on the agenda of the Grand Council of the Crees as we were able to see in two articles that recently appeared in the newspaper of the Crees of Quebec, *The Nation*. The Special General Assembly of the Grand Council of the Crees (Ouje-Bougoumou, March 19 to 22, 1996) on natural resources has recognized that the exploitation of resources on their territory has occurred without the consent of the Crees as a people (Eeyou). The Grand Council of the Crees of Quebec has decided that in all necessary areas, they will promote the objectives of the Eeyou people in collaboration with the local communities.

In a general forestry survey, based on the general forestry development plans of Northern Quebec (Region 10, Radissonie, Eeyou, Inuktuk), it seems that in the four management units (26, 85, 86 and 87) of Northern Quebec, about 20 forestry companies are cutting 6,004,700 cubic metres of trees and developing 19,725 hectares. The various companies will pay about \$60 million for cutting rights and will receive a development credit of 17 cents per \$1 of cutting rights, or almost \$10 million in 1996. All these operations will generate about \$200 million in direct economic benefits and the creation of 1,200 jobs (exploitation, development and management, including seasonal employment). Processing will generate more than \$2 billion in direct economic benefits.

The history of the Crees of Quebec started thousands of years ago. They survived at that time as hunters-gatherers, then arrived the era of furs when they became trappers, and finally, they became negotiators, entrepreneurs, politicians and many other diverse occupations.

In the North, projects come and go like the northern wind (Djewetan) and the only thing that remains are the trees (Mishtook), the earth (Ash'ti) and the people (Innu).

The traditionalists would like that the earth rest like the great spirit (Tchemendou) created it, while others are for development. The future years will see, I believe, the emergence of a new preoccupation of the Crees in the domain of forestry.

We must be ready as foresters to intergrate their vision of the earth and the forests with our vision of forestry development. Many steps have already been taken in this direction by Forestry Canada and the firms that have put in place integrated resource development plans in various territories of the Cree Nations.

We must, in the future, reconcile forestry development, the need for jobs for the youth, the preoccupations of the traditionalists and the respect for the earth which all Crees have within themselves.

*Jocelyn J. Gagné, ing. f., Chibougamau*





## **JAMES BAY CREE CULTURAL EDUCATION CENTRE**

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The James Bay Cree Cultural Education Centre is seeking applications for membership.

Incorporated in 1990, the objectives of the Centre are to preserve, promote, foster and develop the Cree language, heritage and culture. To date, the activities of the Centre have included:

- sponsoring and coordinating annual Cree Elders/Youth Conferences;
- recording and translating legends and oral histories;
- publishing and distributing books relating to Cree culture;
- assisting the Elders in setting up a regional and local Elders' Councils;
- conducting research on Cree history and sharing resources with other researchers;
- participating in national and international Aboriginal cultural conferences; and
- assisting communities and organizations with projects relating to the development of Cree culture and language.

Active members of the James Bay Cree Cultural Education Centre have the right to participate the Centre's activities, to receive notices of meetings, and to attend and vote at members meetings. They are also eligible to be elected or appointed as directors of the Centre and are responsible for electing directors, appointing auditors and confirming the by-laws, rules and regulations adopted by the board of directors.

Applicants must be eighteen years of age or over and beneficiaries of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement. Interested individuals may apply in writing to:

James Bay Cree Cultural Education Centre  
c/o Joanne Willis Newton  
Corporate Secretary  
34 Royal Field Crescent  
Nepean, Ontario  
K2J 4E8

Please include in your written application the following information: full legal name, date of birth, beneficiary number, community of origin, current address (including mailing address, if different), and telephone and fax numbers.

For more information, contact Joanne Willis Newton at (613) 825-6588 or fax (613) 733-1670.







I love you. From your brother Uriah  
Neeposh.

**I would like to wish a happy birthday to my mother Mina on June 17th and many more to come. From your daughter Lillian (Chisasibi)**

**Happy belated birthday** to a wonderful sister Bev. I love you U chubby and please come and visit me more often. I miss you. Take care. Love, sister Charlene Cap, nephew Geoffrey Lee-Roy and Harold B. XXXX-many more.



**Birthday wishes** going out to June Georgekish who celebrated her birthday on June 5, 1996. Happy birthday June and many more to come. "Keeping on praising him, no matter what we go through" Love and prayers, Billy and Lily.

**I would like to wish a happy birthday to a wonderful husband Gary Cooper whose birthday is on April 26, 96. I just hope your dreams come true about 649 numbers. I will always love you. From your wife Linda Cooper. North Bay, Ontario.**

**Birthday wishes** going out to our daughter Colleen Murdoch who celebrated her birthday on June 8, 1996. Love and prayers, Mom and Dad. John 14:6

**Wishin' you a happy birthday!** Mom  
ami, on your birthday (06/02) Yeah! Mom  
there June D——D Gothcha there ehhl  
From Me Heather Marie. xxx. P.S. I'll say  
you had fun on your birthday right?

**Happy birthday!!** Or will it be a belated one, Kevin? (Way in Nemaska) on your birthday . June 4. Hope you had a great time celebrating your 7<sup>th</sup> birthday. So how are things going for you guys? Hope all is well...yeah" A hello to you there Darleen. Take good care of those little rascals will you? Anyways happy belated birthday Kevin. Love, your somewhat little sisters us here back home in Waskaganish. Heather and Eleanor. xxxx P.S. Call home soon or come visit instead. We miss you guys...

**I would like to wish a happy 14th birth**  
day to a special friend of mine Eleanor Gul  
on May 3, 96 in Waswanipi. Happy birth  
day my friend I hope you had fun on your  
special day. I miss you a lot and I hope our  
friendship lasts forever and ever. From your  
friend Melinda Georgekish in Wask. Take  
care.

**I want to wish a happy birthday to my**  
cousin Tyrell Jacob on May 22, 96. in Waskaganish.  
Happy birthday cuz. I hope you had lots of  
fun on your birthday. From your cousin  
Sidney James G. in Waskaganish.

**I want to wish** my wife Trifona M. Happy birthday on May 17, 96. I love you and we will always have a special place in my heart. Love always, your husband P. Matt (Mist)

**I would like to wish a happy belated birthday to my friend Sarah Blacksmith in Waswanipi and to my sister Lilybelle Bosum in Ojay. Happy birthday to the both of you on May 14, and many more to come! From Naomi B. in Ouje-Bougoumou!**

**I would like to wish a happy birthday to Jean Claude Bullfrog on June first. Best wishes and many more to come. From Neacappos in Chis.**

**We would like to say happy birthday to a cute boy Jean-Claude Bullfrog on June 1. Have a wonderful birthday and many more to come. Love, MNN.**



**We would like** to wish a very happy birthday to my 2 year old daughter Natasha Habiba Hoque on June 22, 94. We love you so much. You are growing too fast my baby. Love, from Emmanuel Hoque, Annie Wapachee. Val d' Or, Quebec.

**We would like** to extend a belated birthday wish to our wonderful mom. She celebrated her b-day on May 2. Also we would like to wish her a happy belated mommy day. **We miss you mom.** Love you, from Bella and Flo. xoxoxox

**Birthday greetings** going out to my little friend Stacy Sylvie Neeposh. Happy birthday Stacy I hope you like your presents and may all your dreams come true when you blow out those nine candles. I'll try to be there to see you blow them out. Once again happy 9th birthday on June 15. Love, Kathleen.

**Happy birthday to JB** in Mississauga. She will celebrate her 16th birthday on June ??  
Once again, happy Birthday J! From your friends in Miss. PS watch out for eggs.

**Our dad, Eric Shecapio** will be celebrating his birthday on June 10. Dad, we want to wish you the best and let you know that we miss you. Keep up the good work, you're almost finished. With love, your daughter and son, Twyla Diamond and Terrell Shecapio

**Happy second birthday** to my adorable and cutest cousin William Joseph Trapper on June 3rd and many more to come. Hope you will have nice and lots of presents since you're the baby of the family. Love U. from Amira.

**I would like to wish** a happy birthday to a very special little boy Isaiah Awashish (dee-dee-doh) He will be two years old on

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# Maamuitaau

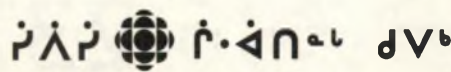
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for stories that reflect Cree culture,  
entertainment, education and politics.

**Saturdays 06:28 SRC    Sundays 07:00 CBMT, 18:00 SRC**





# CLASSIFIEDS

the first day of June. P.S. With lots of hugs and kisses, KR. (Mist) xoxoxoxo...

**I would like to wish** a happy birthday to a dearest friend Angel Voyageur on June 24. Happy birthday Angel. You are a good friend of mine. Thanks for being there when I needed a friend. Thanks for everything. Once again, happy birthday and many more to come. Take care. From friend always, RL. (Mist)

**We would like to say** happy birthday to my special mom on May 26, 96. This is your day and all your 21 grandchildren will celebrate your birthday with you mom. We love you so much. Love always, your daughter Annie and kids.

**Birthday greetings** going out to my sister-in-law, Dorothy Tomatuk, who will be celebrating her birthday on May 11, 1996. I know how much you wanted to go to the goosescamp, but things happen when we least expect them. Anyways, we'll miss you but we understand why you can't be with us this spring. With the Lord willing, there'll be other springs for us to share. So, take care and enjoy your day. Love, Gloria.

**To a very special person** who will be celebrating his birthday at the end of June. Even though you left when I didn't want you to leave after telling you how I felt about you a year ago. My feelings for you haven't changed. I still feel the same way for you and I hope we can someday work things out. You never said or done something to somehow changed how I felt about you. Just thought I'd let you about this so you'll know

that I'm still wanting for you to waltz back into my life. From a person who thinks of you often.

**We would like to wish** a happy 2nd birthday to our daughter Kaitlyn Happyjack on June 30th and many wonderful birthdays coming your way and hope you'll have a great one this year. We love you very much. With love, your mommy (Lise Happyjack and daddy (Ronnie Matt) and especially your little sis Kristen. xoxoxoxo.

**Happy 2nd birthday** going to our sweet little cuz Kaitlyn Happyjack on June 30th and hope you'll have a special day as special as you are. And many more wonderful birthdays coming your way. With all our love, cuz Aaron Happyjack and baby Shania Pompana. xoxoxoxo

**Birthday wish** going out to my sweet little niece Kaitlyn Happyjack on June 30th. Hope you'll have a wonderful day and lots of fun. With all my love, auntie Josephine Happyjack and Tim Pompana.

**Birthday wish** going out to our granddaughter Kaitlyn Happyjack on June 30th and many more to come. With all our love, grandma Emma and grandpa Abel Happyjack. xoxoxoxo.

**Birthday wishes** also goes out to Jean-Guy (May 28) and Nancy Pelchat (May 30). Have a great birthday and many more to come. From everybody at E4-Hse. 2 (Chis)

**Happy birthdays** to my three grandmas

whose special days are on may 10, May 13 and May 30. I love you all very much. From your grandson Jonathan.

**We would like to wish** a happy birthday to our wonderful dad Gary Cooper whose birthday will be on April 26, 96. Hey dad. We know you are working hard for us. Keep up the good work. We love you so much. With love, your sons Brandon, Mason and Josiah Cooper. North Bay, Ontario.

**These birthday greetings** goes out to three special aunts: Dolores (May 10), Rebecca (May 13), Maryanne (May 30). The beauty of springtime is a promise of a new beginning, a fresh start to go on with out lives. Happy birthday to all. We love you so very much and always. From George, Chris, Jason, Stanley, Matthewsh and Mary Jane.

**I wanna wish** a happy second birthday to a special little boy who means a lot to me, my son Gabriel Blacksmith on May 29th. Wishing your day will be a special as you are. I love with all my heart. Love always, your mom Nannie Blacksmith. xoxoxoxoxo

**Wishing a very happy belated 24th** birthday to David (Doo-Doo) Matthews on June 6th, 1996. Happy birthday!! Hey! This is the year you should start looking for a wife. You know why cause you need one and you're getting old! Ha! Ha! (joke) Take care. Your sis, Priscilla M.

**I hope I'm not too late** for a birthday wish going out to my ndoomagin Gabriel Blacksmith whose birthday was on May 29.

You'll always have a special place in my heart. With love, hugs and kisses, Linda L. Swallow. P.S. Don't give mom a hard time.

**Just thought I'd send** in a note to wish you a happy birthday!! Priscilla M. in Waswanipi on your birthday April 24th. Guess it'll be a belated one, aaahhhh! Better late than never eh? Prisc... signed from me your good ol' chum Heather D. All the way from ahh! You know where? XXXX P.S. Say hi! to the gang for me and I'll see you guys at Lorraine's bash. I'll write. Till then.

**On June 15, Sat.** Nathalie Icebound will be celebrating her 20th big day, that is, birthday. Anyways, have a great time and happy birthday. From your friends 4-ever M-Anne Gull and Nadia H/Jack

**We would like to wish** a happy birthday to our bro Jordan Iserhoff on May 27 and also to our aunt Nannette. We would like to wish her happy birthday on May 21. Big hugs and big kisses. Fr. Hayley, Eternity-Joy. God bless you on your birthday.

**Birthday greetings** going out to Marlene Mianscum on June 5, 1996 and to James Neeposh on June 18th, 1996. Happy birthday to you both and many more to come. Love, Flora Trapper.

**Happy birthday Eric**, I hope you take it easy on June 10 even if your teacher says get to work! I wish I could be there with you but you know Twyla and TJ miss you! Love, LDS.

**Happy birthday Stacy Sylvie!** She will



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# CLASSIFIEDS

celebrate her 9th birthday on June 15. I love you very much Stacy. I tease you a lot because that's how much I love you. From your sister Jee-Jee-Ah-Wee. xoxoxoxoxo.

**A very happy birthday wish** going out to our dad Charlie Pt. Lots of hugs and kisses coming to you from our prov. Capital City. We love you dad and we miss you very much. From your girls.

**Belated birthday wish** going out to a special sister June Whiskeychan on June 6, 96. Wishing you happiness on your special day and hope you will have fun. From your sis Diane salt in Wask.

**Mom. Happy birthday on May 20th.** We luv you. Take care. Love, Charlene, Harold, Geoffrey Lee-Roy.

**Happy birthday to my mom** on June 22, 96. This day will give me an opportunity to tell you thank you for what you've done for me. Happy birthday again and try to enjoy your day by taking a break. I guess you'll need my help there eh? Anyway, I love you very much. Your daughter Beeguesh and thanks again for everything....

## 102-WEDDINGS

**Best wishes to Pauline Icebound and Neil Gull** on their upcoming marriage on August 9, 96 in Waswanipi. Be happy from your friends Mary-Anne Gull, Nadia Happyjack, Clara Gull, Jonathan Ottereyes, Priscilla M.

**Congratulations to Kathleen Ratt and**

Danny Vaillancourt on their wedding day June 21 in Wemindji and to Brent Lloyd Blackned and Cynthia House on June 28 in Chisasibi. Wishing you both a long and happy life together. From Boysh and Margaret.

**Congratulations to our uncle Maurice Hester and Marlene Namagoose** for their wedding on June 14, 1996. We wish you a wonderful life together. Love, Lorraine, Ian, Sanford and Phillip Diamond. Charles, Brenda, Floyd, Barbara, Bert and Leonard Darryl Hester. Gary Clive, Angeline and Jordana Mcleod. Bradley, Kerrie, Destinee, Desiree and Dustin Hester. Rocky Diamond, Georgina, Suzanne, Jeremiah and Janna Lee Hester, Audrey Blackned and Ashley Hester.

## 103-ANNIVERSARIES

**Happy 32nd anniversary** to my loving and caring husband Billy "June 12, 1996" Happy anniversary honey and Lord willing many more to come. From yours always.

**Happy 9th anniversary** to our parents Wilfred and Verna Cheezo on June 23, 96. And many more happy years to come. We thank you for all the love you have. Love, your children D.G.D.A.M. in Eastmain. P.S. Try to reach your golden one.

**Happy 1st anniversary** to my brother and his wife (Billy and Melanie) on August 26. I wish you all the best of luck. I love you both. Anyways, how's Sammy Boy doing. Lots of love, your sis Annie Laurie Trapper. P.S. I miss you all. Hope to see

you soon. xoxoxoxoxo.

**Happy 1st anniversary** to my parents Harnet and Samuel on June 21st. Thanx for all you've done for me. I wish you all the best. Love always, your daughter Annie Laurie Trapper. P.S. I love you both. I love you grandma and grandpa. Love always, Munchkin and Tumtum.

**I would like to wish a happy 8th anniversary** to Victor and Irene Gilpin on June 23, 96. I wish you all the best and all the best in the years to come. From Wilfred and Verna Cheezo in Eastmain.

**We would like to wish our parents Norma and Simeon Pepabano a happy 20th anniversary** on May 27. We love both very much. Love always Brandy and Lawrence in Chis.

**Happy 10th anniversary** to my loving trusting husband John Jolly on June the 27th, 96. Love Sheila Jolly (Waskaganish)

**Happy 25th anniversary** to our loving grandparents Roderick and Janie Matches in Chisasibi (June 15). We wish you both love, joy and a lifetime of happiness. Love always, your grandchildren in Waskaganish, Cindy and Troy. xoxoxoxo.

**I want to wish a happy 9th anniversary** to my love Wilfred J. Cheezo on June 23, 96. We hope both of us have wonderful lives together. May our love for each other grow stronger day by day. I will always love you. From your wife Verna in Eastmain.

**I would like to wish a happy 8th anniversary** to Victor and Irene Gilpin on June 23, 96. We wish you all the best in the years to come. May the good lord bless you both. Take good care of each other. From D.G.D.A.M. (Eastmain)

## 104-GRADUATIONS

**Congratulations** to my two friends, Betty Stewart and Nina Bobbish who will be successfully completing high school in Wemindji on June 14, 96. You both did it! You prove that it's possible to overcome obstacles, to do well even when the odds are against you. I know it wasn't easy but I'm not surprised at all because I know you and all along I knew you had it in you to succeed. Congratulations again on a job well done! Wishing you both the very best throughout the days ahead. From a friend whose really proud of you both. Velma Geo. P.S. Have fun on your graduation. Nice going, graduates.

**Congratulations** to my sisters Nadia H. and Roseanna B. who received their Adult Ed. diploma on April 20 and also happy 19th birthday to Nadia on April 29. Good luck in the future. Both of yours. With love, Natasha and Alyssa. xoxoxoxo

**Congratulations** to Jeffrey Natawapineskum for successfully graduating from high school (Wem.) on June 14. We wish you all the best and whatever you decide to do we will fully support you. Love always, Mom, Dad, sisters and brothers.

**Congratulations** are in order for Sabrina



**Congratulations to all our graduates and best wishes for your continued success in whatever fields you choose.**

**From the Chief, Council and all employees of the Cree Nation of Wemindji.**



*On behalf of the Whapmagoostui First Nation community, the Chief and Council of the Whapmagoostui First Nation wishes to congratulate you - the 1996 Secondary V Graduates from the Badabin Eeyou School in Whapmagoostui. Congratulations!*

*We wish you the same success in all your future endeavours.*

*We join you and your families in celebrating this very important event in your lives. We are very proud of you. We are confident that you will succeed in meeting your other goals in life by applying the same determination and commitment you have applied in becoming a graduate. Once again, Congratulations and we wish you all the best in the future.*



# CLASSIFIEDS

Lynn Mark for completing her secondary V. It has been a long journey right? Well, the best is yet come. I love you and I'm so proud to see this day with you. June 20, 1996. Let's promise each other not to cry, ok? Love, Sue Ojay.

**Congratulating Joseph** Johnny Gilpin on his kindergarten graduation in June, 1996. Congratulations Joseph. We love you. Your mom, dad, sisters and Brant at Wask. Also from you big brother J.P. at Mistissini.

**Congratulations** to all the graduates in Waswanipi on April 20, 1996. Sharon Gull, Pauline Dixon, Bobby Gull, Rose Anna Blacksmith, Evelyn Dixon, Nadia Happyjack, Maryanne Gull, Kyla Grant, Louie Diamond, Christine Longchapel, Melvin Moushoun, Caroline Dixon, Gloria Jolly, Deborah Diamond, Cathy Saganash, Annette Neeposh, Sandra M. Icebound, Annie Trapper, Doreen Blacksmith, Flora B. Kitchen, Sophie Dixon, Hattie Longchapel, Paul Dixon. From Waswanipi.

**Con"grad"ulations** to a very good friend Patricia Diamond for completing the program Office Administration (Executive) at Canadore College in North Bay. I always knew you could do it!! Love in friendship, Lorraine Diamond. Another congratulations to my namesake Jennica Charmaine Diamond for her kindergarten graduation. Good luck in the first grade in August. I love you!!!

**Congratulations** to all graduates. Especially to Nina Bobbish and Brian Wadden. From Boysh.

**Congratulations to Nina.** She is graduating from Maquatua Eeyou School. Let your dreams soar. Love, Mom, Dad, Robert, Pauline, Lisa, Rachel and Elizabeth.

**To my mom Nina.** I am happy you are getting your diploma! Love, your little tyrant "Beat"

**A very special applause** going out to my fiancé Cliff Loon for graduating at St. Lawrence College in Quebec City. I'm very proud of you. Congratulations again!!! Love always, Bella. xoxoxoxo.

**I would like to congratulate** a very special man in which I've had the privilege of knowing, Mr. Allan Loon. Allan, you are one of a kind. I admire your success. From your soon to be daughter-in-law.

**I would like to congratulate** Mr. Kippy Loon for graduating at St. Lawrence College on May 18. May the good guy bless you and guide you along the way. From Florence P. P.S. Thanx for being my "dad" xoxoxoxo

**I would like to congratulate** my sister Bella pet who will be graduating at QHS on June 7. I'm very proud of you and may the good lord guide you along the way. From your sister who loves you very much. Flo.

**This special message** goes out to my sweet younger sister Flo. (Horby) Petawabano for completing her first school year at QHS. I'm very proud of you and you should also be proud of yourself. I love you sis. BP.

**Congratulations to Jason** Shecapio and Rene Coon-Come. They will be graduating from Voyageur Memorial School. Good luck in your future studies. From Andrew Coon. P.S. Don't party too much!

**We want to congratulate** Jean-Baptiste Loon for his graduation from Canadore College in North Bay, Ontario. We wish you all the best and success! May you achieve your goals! From the Trapper family at 67 Etudah in Mistissini.

## 300-PERSONALS

**When you wanna fill out the classifieds order form** you gotta leave spaces between the words. Thank you. Love, the classifieds dept.

**We would like to say hi** to our uncle Eric Fedora in Montreal. How is it going? We're doing okay. When are you coming back? We miss you so much. Love always, your nieces Dianne, Pamela and Melinda Georgekish. P.S. Hope to see you soon and take care of yourself. (Fr. Wask)

**A message going out to Bella Pet.** Words can't describe how thankful I am. You've helped me a lot throughout our year in Quebec City. You've always been there for me when I needed you. You're the best sis. Thank you. Love, Flo.

**Special thanks** goes out to Georgette and Lindy Mark-Stewart for letting me stay at their home when I went to Eastmain. I've had good memories in the past, but now, they just keep getting better and better.

Thanks to you both. I'm glad that you are both in my life. Even though I don't say this often, I just want you to know that I love you and miss you so much! From your sister who loves you, Mary Helen. P.S. Take care of yourselves, Ok?

**To Mother Goose.** I was worried when I heard you were hospitalized. I had a dream last night. My dream was that you were in the operating room and I waited patiently until I could see you. I had in one hand a beautiful rose that resembles your beauty and on the other hand a bouquet to tell that everything went well. Later that day we made plans to have a romantic candle dinner at...Call me! From Godzilla.

**I just want to say hi** to my girlfriend Audrey Blackmed. I love you very much and your friends, I love them to. From your boyfriend in Chisasibi. Love always, and keep away from Jean-Louis and Simone Monger. P.S. Don't fool around too much and take care.

**I would like to say hi** to Desiree Blacksmith in Waswanipi. I am always going to remember the good old days. Well hope to see you soon. From your friend Paula in Chisasibi..

**I wish I can express my true feeling** of how I really feel about you, but I know you have always doubted my love. I've shown you in many ways but sorry to say I cannot change...P.S. Happy belated birthday and many more to come. Have a safe spring.... Loved and missed Dee Dee.



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---

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wishes to acknowledge and congratulate all students listed below  
who have successfully completed their studies of this academic year 1995-95.  
We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.**

#### **MISTISSINI**

##### **Accounting**

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Anna L. Metabie  
Brenda Blacksmith  
Emma P. Neeposh  
Philomene Mianscum  
Lucie Mianscum  
Demerise CC. Blacksmith

##### **Automated Accounting & Finance**

Demerise Coon  
Anna L. Metabie  
Brenda Blacksmith  
Philomene J. Mianscum

##### **Academic Upgrading**

Lina P. MacLeod  
Anita L. Gunner

#### **WASWANIPi**

##### **Academic Upgrading:**

Gloria Jolly  
Annie Trapper  
Christine Longchap  
Caroline Coonishish  
Sophie Longchap  
Roseanna Blacksmith  
Paul Dixon  
Helen Gull  
Sharon Gull  
Sandra Mianscum  
Evelyn Dixon  
Pauline Dixon  
Mary Ann Gull  
Bobby Sam Gull  
Melvin Moushoom  
Louie Diamond  
Flora Kitchen  
Hattie Longchap  
Doreen Blacksmith  
Kyla Grant  
Nadia Happyjack  
Cathy Saganash  
Deborah Diamond  
Annette Neeposh

##### **Carpentry**

Don Saganash  
Clifford Blacksmith  
Norman Happyjack  
Kevin Martin  
Gary Gull

#### **NEMASKA:**

##### **Academic Upgrading**

Stella Moar Wapachee  
Emily Neeposh  
Margaret Cheeso  
Bill Blackned  
Rose Lynn Rabbitskin

#### **CHISASIBI:**

##### **Northern Building Maintenance**

George Bearskin  
Evan Chiskamish  
Bernard House  
David Necappo  
Leslie Rupert  
Joel Benjamin

##### **Secretarial**

Alice T. Chewanish  
Gracie S. Chiskamish  
Shelley Cromarty  
Mary Ann P. House  
Phyllis P. Matthew  
Patricia Menerick  
Lilybelle Pachano  
Pauline Pachano

##### **French Upgrading** Patricia George Francine Snowboy

**English Upgrading**  
Florence Mark  
Julianna S. Matoush  
Tracey Monias  
Eliza Pepabana  
Louise M. Rupert  
Stella Sam  
Cherubine Martin  
Lillybelle Pachano  
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